

ANNUAL REPORTS

OF THE

SELECTMEN, TREASURER,

AND

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF THE

Town of Londonderry,

For the Financial Year Ending March, 1871.

MANCHESTER:

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SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

The amount of funds chargeable to the treasurer for the year ending March 1, 1871, is as follows :

To balance in the treasury, Feb. 28, 1871,	\$6,791 71
Principal of surplus Revenue Fund.	1,728 33
Interest on surplus Revenue Fund,	96 34
Principal on Literary Fund,	298 74
Interest on do.	17 92
Resident List of state, town, county, and school taxes,	10,620 22
Non-resident list of state, town, county and school taxes,	1,541 81
Resident list of school house tax, District No. 7,	119 77
Non-resident do do	47 45
Resident list of School District tax, No. 9,	12 57
Non-resident list do do	3 02
Resident list of highway taxes,	2,212 54
Non-resident list of do	321 19
Received from State, Savings Bank Tax.	1,137 26
Railroad Tax,	582 66
Literary Fund,	112 23
Received from County of Rockingham, for support of paupers,	223 01
Donated by Mrs. Susan A. Davis, for hearse runners,	25 00
Received of L. H. Nesmith, interest on taxes,	61 31
do Henry Crowell, do	70 47
do Henry Crowell, highway tax in cash,	10 80

Amount of dog tax,	79 00
Received on notes payable,	717 10
do from sale of Bonds,	1,806 17
do from sale of farm,	4,000 00
do from sale of ministerial lot,	170 00
do interest on real estate to March 1,	154 95
do interest on personal property,	19 96
do from sale of personal property,	1,426 81
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	\$34,996 57

The amount of expenditures for the same year has been as follows:

By cash paid—	
State and county tax,	4,513 95
Schools,	1,544 24
School House tax,	160 00
Roads,	47 56
Bridges,	62 84
Winter Roads,	169 46
Burying-grounds,	56 25
Damage to sheep by dogs,	44 00
Town officers,	491 50
Miscellaneous town expenses,	63 28
Town farm expenses,	126 17
Expense of sales at town farm,	64 01
Town poor,	91 00
County poor,	197 28
Abatements,	314 26
Discount on taxes,	45 46
Resident highway tax, in labor,	2,333 78
Non-resident highway receipts,	77 96
Notes paid,	13,707 64
Endorsements paid on notes,	360 00
Interest on notes,	824 92
Interest on bonds,	816 00
Surplus revenue,	1,728 33
Literary Fund,	228 89
Balance of account,	6,927 79
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	\$34,996 57

STATE AND COUNTY TAX.

Paid State tax,	\$2,616 00
County tax,	1,897 95
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	\$4,513 95

SCHOOLS.

Paid—			
District No. 1,	\$215 50	District No. 7,	\$182 28
2,	196 70	8,	213 92
3,	107 37	9,	111 65
4,	153 03	10,	34 20
5,	143 62	11,	103 73
6,	82 24		<hr/>
			\$1,544 24

SCHOOL HOUSE TAXES.

Paid School District, No. 7,	\$160 00
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TOWN EXPENSES.

ROADS.

Paid—	
John R. Emery, Moor's Ferry road,	\$35 61
Daniel Wilkins,	7 50
Elisha Smith,	2 20
Josiah Goodwin,	2 25
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	\$47 56

BRIDGES

Paid—	
Josiah Goodwin,	\$1 50
James Dooley plank for Furber and Wilson's bridges,	31 30
E. C. Kendall, lumber,	2 50
David MacGregor, Wilson's Bridge,	2 90
Joseph T. Noyes, do	3 39
Martin L. Moor, do	8 00
Joseph Cowdrey, do	8 25
D. R. Patterson, 1866,	5 00
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	\$62 84

WINTER ROADS.

Paid—			
James M. Floyd,	9 60	Josiah Goodwin,	\$5 00

Benj. McAllister,	645	Charles M. Holmes,	14 25
Edward P. Ela,	12 96	Benning Noyes,	5 45
James Nevins,	8 78	John Merrill,	7 00
Jonathan Dana,	94	David Smith,	2 50
Oliver F. Blood,	3 90	Robert Marshall,	4 50
John Blood,	3 90	George W. Annis,	10 75
John D. K. Marshall,	3 30	John M. Avery,	75
J. M. Avery,	6 75	Caleb C. Mortimer,	5 27
John Remington,	3 36	John Greeley, Jr.,	5 40
Dan'l K. Barker, 1866,	4 50	Alfred D. Greeley,	3 00
George W. Annis,	6 00	John Woodburn, Jr.,	7 80
Gilman Farley, 1866,	8 00	Peter Corning,	7 00
Caleb C. Mortimer,	3 75	Sylvester R. Corning,	3 00
Jeremiah Heath,	5 60		
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			\$169 46

BURYING GROUNDS.

Paid W. S. Pillsbury, clearing bushes,	\$5 00
John Shipley, care of hearse house,	1 25
A. W. Sanborn & Co., hearse runners,	50 00
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	\$56 25

DAMAGE TO SHEEP BY DOGS.

Paid George W. Chrispeen,	\$4 00
John W. Greeley,	17 00
Jonathan McAllister,	23 00
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	\$44 00

TOWN OFFICERS.

Paid—	
Calvin Boyd, moderator,	\$6 00
Henry Crowell, town clerk,	25 00
Gilbert Hills, selectman, 1870,	8 00
Jonathan Savory, do do	14 50
David MacGregor, do do	9 00
Jonathan Savory, selectman,	104 00
David MacGregor, do	82 50
Charles S. Pillsbury, do	45 50
Jonathan Savory, time and expense out of town,	23 00
Jonathan Savory, select clerk,	10 00
Robert C. Mack, treasurer,	20 00
A. W. Mack, school committee,	40 00
L. H. Nesmith, collector,	100 00

John Dickey, auditor,	2 00
Aaron P. Hardy, auditor,	2 00

\$491 50

MISCELLANEOUS TOWN EXPENSES.

Paid M. H. Holmes, insurance,	\$ 3 89
John Haynes, registration births and deaths,	1 25
Wm. H. Fisk, printing and stationery,	52 19
M. H. Holmes, insurance in full on farm buildings,	2 70
Wm. H. Belknap, copy and recording deed,	3 25

\$63 28

TOWN FARM EXPENSES.

Paid John Dickey, due on settlement,	\$2 54
H. & H. R. Pettee, shorts,	1 14
J. Abbott, shorts, meal, flour and int.	24 05
Nathaniel Pettengill, for labor,	6 38
J. Rowley, groceries,	3 15
John B. Varick, paper and nails,	4 70
B. F. Garvin, phosphate,	6 50
P. W. Farley, cart wheel,	11 60
Jeremiah Heath, pigs,	12 00
E. C. Kendall, grinding apples,	7 50
F. C. Watts, labor on sled,	1 50
James Pettengill, meat,	10 36
Arley Plummer, groceries &c.,	9 75
John Fulsom, shingles,	19 80
Daniel D. Smith, blacksmith labor,	2 60
Josiah Goodwin, bricks,	2 60

\$126 17

EXPENSES OF SALES AT TOWN FARM.

Paid Moor & Langley, printing,	\$10 00
John B. Clark, "	6 00
C. H. Campbell, as auctioneer, and government tax,	33 75
Wilson & Perkins, cod fish,	2 64
John Wallace barrel crackers.	4 20
Henry Crowell, clerk at sale,	2 00
John Dow,	75
Stamps for deeds,	4 50
Warren Richardson, acknowledging deed,	17

\$64 01

TOWN POOR.

Paid George N. Goodwin for Amos Goodwin,	\$91 00
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\$91 00

COUNTY POOR.

Paid J. C. Dow, for journey to Brentwood,	6 00
Samuel C. Barker, supplies to Mrs. Sarah Wiley,	19 78
Samuel C. Barker, " to Mrs. Jacob Willey.	27 89
Leonard Page, " " "	10 00
George W. Boyce, " " "	2 50
Wm. J. Campbell, medical attendance "	7 50
Samuel C. Barker, supplies Mrs. Sarah Wiley,	16 00
" " " Mrs. Jacob Willey	62 50
James Pettengill, " " "	2 61
Jonathan Savory, transient,	6 50
William S. Pillsbury, clothing &c. to H. Sheply,	16 00
John Haynes, medical attendance to J. Nichols,	20 00

\$197 28

ABATEMENTS, DISCOUNTS AND HIGHWAY TAXES.

ABATEMENTS.

Paid Henry Crowell, on list of 1868,	\$20 72
" " " 1869,	90 60
L. H. Nesmith " 1870,	202 94

\$314 26

DISCOUNTS.

Paid L. H. Nesmith discount on taxes 1870,	\$45 46
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RESIDENT HIGHWAY TAX IN LABOR,

Paid Henry Crowell, balance of 1869,	\$733 78
L. H. Nesmith, list 1870,	1,600 00

\$2,333 78

NON-RESIDENT HIGHWAY RECEIPTS.

Paid Henry Crowell, 1869.	\$21 08
L. H. Nesmith, 1870,	56 88

\$77 96

NOTES PAID.

Paid John L. Bradford, three notes,	\$2.641 71
Laura A. Corning,	449 09
A. W. Mack, W. Richardson note,	98 29
Laughlin Welch,	152 62
William Taylor,	1.116 50
Edward O. Dodge,	222 47
Charles Austin, Ann Lomas note,	1.308 32
Martha Young,	488 00
J. R. Bagley, two notes,	312 40
Joseph Eaton, Abigail Eaton note,	31 33
Mehitable Goodwin,	80 11
Caleb M. Watts, two notes of Martha Watts,	274 35
Charles McClary, (order outstanding,)	570 23
J. R. Bagley	224 23
Charles Cheney, Arch. Wilkins' note	192 43
John D. Patterson, Thomas Patterson note,	190 96
John Shipley,	405 60
Thomas S. Bradford,	421 46
John M. Noyes, L. Noyes' note,	653 25
Peter Corning,	951 48
John P. Young, two notes,	2.922 81
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	\$13.707 64

ENDORSEMENTS PAID ON NOTES.

Paid Mehitable Goodwin,	\$50 00
Jonathan Brickett,	150 00
Mehitable Goodwin,	50 00
J. W. Peabody,	40 00
Mehitable Goodwin,	50 00
J. R. Bagley,	20 00
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	\$360 00

INTEREST ON NOTES.

Paid—		Paid—	
W. P. Wallace,	\$17 44	Elizabeth Dickey,	\$24 00
West Parish,	1 08	Eveline Gilcreast,	15 00
A. P. Hardy,	52 80	Jane Holmes,	24 00
Olive Plumer,	59 60	J. M. Noyes,	39 58
John Shipley,	12 00	Jonathan Savory,	46 36
Eveline Gilcreast,	15 00	John Dissmore,	54 81

Abigail Eaton,	1 80	Eveline Gilcreast,	15 00
Lydia Atwood,	24 00	Susan A. Davis,	30 00
Susan A. Davis,	60 00	Elizabeth W. Dickey,	24 00
William P. Nevins,	24 36	Isaac Dow, outstan'd,	18 00
Eveline Gilcreast,	15 00	J. R. Bagley,	21 60
Betsey C. Annis,	30 45	Ruth M. E. Blodgett,	10 96
Lydia Corning,	6 38	R. C. Mack,	54 96
West Parish,	2 17	R. C. Mack,	20 83
John Shipley,	12 00	Non-residents,	91 74

\$824 92

INTEREST ON BONDS.

Paid—		Paid—	
West Parish,	\$165 00	A. P. Hardy,	\$60 00
C. S. Pillsbury,	15 00	H. C. March,	15 00
A. P. Hardy,	90 00	John Dickey,	12 00
West Parish,	180 00	Aaron P. Hardy,	90 00
Jona. Savory,	15 00	Jona. Savory,	15 00
James McMurphy,	15 00	Charles S. Pillsbury,	15 00
Henry C. March,	45 00	Charles S. Pillsbury,	24 00
Henry C. March,	45 00	Emira March,	15 00

\$816 00

Londonderry, March 1, 1871.

This certifies that we have this day audited the Selectmen's accounts, and find the same correctly cast and properly vouched.

JOHN DICKEY, }
AARON P. HARDY, } Auditors.

TOWN BALANCE SHEET.

Town of Londonderry,	Dr.
To notes payable,	\$25,357 51
Bonds payable,	14,000 00
Interest due March 1, 1871, on bonds,	225 00
do do on notes,	2,751 00
Outstanding orders,	588 23

\$42,921 74

CR.

By balance of U. S. Bounties,	\$2,642 50
Surplus Revenue Fund,	1,728 33
Literary Fund,	228 89
Due from Goss & Pinkerton, drawing wood,	65 00
do Charles Goodwin, for labor,	10 00
Balance in treasury, highway tax deducted,	6,315 25
Balance and debt of town,	31,931 77
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	\$42,921 74

Agreeably to a vote of the town your selectmen advertised and sold at public auction the town farm and property connected therewith, amounting to fifty-five hundred ninety-six 81-100 dollars, as shown on first page.

Forty-two hundred, ninety-six 8-100 dollars, including interest, has been paid and passed to the hands of the Treasurer in orders and cash, and fourteen-hundred, seventy-five, 64-100 dollars in notes, including interest to March 1, 1871, also including one account of \$21.56 passed to the Treasurer. One note on the farm, of \$1300, has one year to run from next April, with interest annually.

JONATHAN SAVORY,	} Selectmen of Londonderry
DAVID MACGREGOR,	
CHARLES S. PILLSBURY.	

REPORT OF SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

The Superintendent would submit his report as follows :

If we may not claim for the past school year any unusual degree of efficiency and usefulness, we may at least characterize it as one remarkably exempt from accidents and failures. No teacher of painful incompetency has turned back the tide of progress in any school, nor has any pupil interposed coarse and persistent opposition in the way of right rule and wholesome discipline. An average year's progress has been made in the education of the rising generation, and, at least, as much as usual accomplished in the improvement of the common school. For the good accomplished the credit is largely due the prudential committees. We are aware in most instances they have spared no pains in securing the best teachers possible, and we know of no case where the interests of a school have been sacrificed that a place might be provided for a daughter, niece or cousin. No one is competent to fill this important place who is not above the influence of "fear, favor or affection," and who will not act energetically and intelligently with reference to the best interests of the school as a whole.

If, in past years, a greater number of first-class teachers have sometimes been employed, we have, at least, enjoyed the services of an average amount of ability and experience. With but few exceptions nothing but praise is due teachers for their management the past season. We are sure that they have devoted their physical and mental energies faithfully to their duties, and when we have taken into consideration their want of experience in some instances, and their want of professional training generally, we are no less sure they are entitled to all credit for their skill as instructors. The teacher's task is a more difficult one than is popularly supposed, and those who are the loudest in dealing with her faults are the individuals, who, in her place, would make the most brilliant failures. While our teachers have accomplished as much as we have reason to expect we may be allowed to hope that in the "good time coming"—through the agency of Normal and other training schools—the number of those thoroughly prepared to teach may be largely increased.

DISTRICT No. 1.

Summer and Winter, Miss Fannie M. Webster, teacher.

The reading at the examination closing the summer term was very correct and praiseworthy—that of the second class extra. In readiness in solving and clearness in explaining problems, the first class in arithmetic could not be excelled. In penmanship, in this, and in the winter term, there was the proper, *quantity* and *quality*. The school room was tastefully trimmed with wreaths and flowers and it might be stated that unusual pains and taste were used in decorating the school room in every district at the close of the summer term. At the winter examination there was evidence of application and progress in each class. The class in Algebra appeared to advantage and so did that in the Primer. Amid her manifold duties, time had been found for instruction and drill in the sounds of the letters and a very satisfactory exhibition was the result. Much interest was given to the exercises by good declamations, the reading of a spicy *paper*, and by good singing. The attendance in this district be it said to the credit of all concerned has greatly improved. Due acknowledgement was made to Miss W. for her efficient and devoted labor in the presentation, by her pupils, of a valuable Photograph Album.

DISTRICT No. 2.

Summer, Miss Josephine W. Bradford.

A constant change of teachers imperils the reputation of the best school. Fortunately this sustained no detriment and its motto is still "Excelsior." Miss B. early acquired the confidence of her pupils and employing many really excellent methods in teaching, not only gave good satisfaction to her employers but, teach is often quite a different matter, afforded them a profitable school. The examination was entirely satisfactory, there being no marked deficiencies and every class appearing to advantage. The reading of the "Portfolio," a *periodical* abounding in witty allusions and correct composition, and the presentation to the teacher of a silver vase, added to the interest of the occasion.

Winter, Mr. E. F. Higgins, a teacher of thorough qualifications was in full sympathy with his pupils, and the results of the brief term of nine weeks were exceedingly gratifying. The progress of the school was marked by an unusual ambition and devotion to study, and if any discipline was required or used in securing propriety of conduct it was of some magnetic kind which

was imperceptible. The salient points of excellence, as manifested at the examinations were as follows: extra progress in grammar—we have not made the acquaintance of so good a class in town—it was proof that grammar could be made interesting and of practical value in the common school. A class of older pupils showed by their expertness the value of attention to mental arithmetic. In written arithmetic problems were not only readily solved but the underlying principles of the science were evidently understood. There were a few declamations of solid merit, and another rich and racy appearance of the scholar's "Gazette." A beautiful chromo was presented to the teacher by his pupils as a memento of the pleasant and profitable winter term in District No. Two.

DISTRICT No. 3.

Summer, Miss V. A. V. Goldsmith.

This was Miss G's first assay in a profession in which it is so desirable to unite experience to tact and scholarship, and yet she was not found wanting and needs but experience to make of her a successful teacher. Dignity and firmness secured a good state of discipline, and at the examination, the pupils were found to have made good and substantial progress. The primer class in particular, had made rapid strides. The classes in arithmetic had made extra proficiency. The reading was generally good, although the younger classes read too rapidly.

Winter, Miss Mary E. Anderson.

The winter term witnessed the *debut* of another young teacher destined, we have no doubt to success and usefulness. The school was in a healthy and progressive condition during its session and the examination at its close quite satisfactory. A class in mental arithmetic, constituted of the older scholars is deserving of commendation for attending to that branch as well as for the skill and readiness with which its members solved the hardest problems. A pleasant feature of the examination was the singing.

DISTRICT No. 4.

Summer, Miss Celestia Goldsmith.

Miss G. gave universal and well grounded satisfaction. She possesses tact, patience and firmness, and greatly excels as a primary teacher. The instruction of the term was faithful; the discipline salutary and efficient. At the close the reading of all the classes was excellent. In grammar, definitions and rules were well committed, but were not applied to practice in parsing quite

so well as was desirable. Several well-delivered declamations added to the interest of the examination. Miss G. left the school in the best possible working order.

Winter, Miss Lizzie D. Bowers.

Miss B. is a teacher of much experience and it became evident in an unusual brief space of time she was to be mistress of the situation. Good discipline was obtained without resort to harsh measures and peace and harmony prevailed during the term. The exercises at the examination were in the main creditable, particularly those of classes attending to Algebra, Philosophy and Astronomy. In the lower departments, however, we would have been pleased to see a little more of interest and thoroughness. There were some excellent declamations. It is very creditable to the district that but one case of tardiness and but one of dismissal is reported in the Register.

DISTRICT No. 5.

Summer and Winter, Miss Ellie A. Gilcreast.

The summer term was every way a success. Miss G., in her manner of teaching, was thorough, practical and efficient, and the results were manifest at the close, in the prompt recitations and good appearance of every class. The pupils had evidently received instruction in addition to that found in the books, and recited in such round and ready tones as proved that they had stored away much positive and useful knowledge.

The school, at the beginning of the winter term was found to be in a good working condition. The scholars were orderly and studious, and the teacher interested and earnest, and if the expectations resulting were not realized at the examination we can only assign as a cause the unavoidable absence of some of the more advanced pupils. There was not wanting sufficient evidence that the teacher had done her duty in the teaching and management of the school.

DISTRICT No. 6.

Summer, Miss Julia E. Hayes.

If we have a "model school," it is this; and we are glad to report that under the management of Miss H. it not only sustained but added to its former reputation. The examination furnished abundant evidence of fidelity in the teacher and proficiency in the pupils. Grammar had been taught skillfully and practically, and genuine progress made. As a whole we heard better declamations in this than any other school and the penmanship was very neat and progressive.

Winter, Miss Louise M. Dana.

The examination at the close of the term evinced much healthy progress in the various branches. The pupils were thorough in their acquisitions and prompt in their exhibition of them. Ten of the twelve scholars had given daily attention to writing, and their books, as a whole, presented the best show of penmanship we have seen in town. A class in mental arithmetic was in excellent training, and the classes in geography excelled as usual. In the matter of attendance, both in this and the summer term, this school continues to merit high commendation. The four girls and two of the boys, (half the school,) are not chargeable with a single absence or tardiness during the winter term.

DISTRICT NO. 7.

Summer, Miss Isabella L. Hall.

Miss Hall is a thoroughly qualified, and we learn a successful teacher, and unusual results were anticipated from her connection with the school. The term, however, was interrupted in the midst by the illness of the teacher, and partly on this account, but more particularly by reason of the very inconstant attendance of the scholars, expectations were not fully realized. Still it was evident at the examination, the teacher had not been remiss in duty but had subjected her classes to careful and skillful training. A class of younger pupils was observed to do remarkably well in spelling.

Winter, Mr. H. Martin Kellogg.

Teacher or pupil, this was Mr. K's first experience of the common school. His literary qualifications were quite sufficient and his methods of instruction superior to those of many older teachers, but failing in government, his usefulness as a teacher was limited. Such pupils, however, as were the most constant in attendance made good progress, and the appearance of several of the younger classes was quite creditable,

Very needful repairs were made upon the school-house here, the past season, to the amount of \$167.

DISTRICT NO. 8.

Summer and Winter, Miss Lucy M. Boyd.

Under the pleasant yet efficient rule of Miss Boyd, this school escaped the accidents of past years, and finished its allotted terms in peace and prosperity. The examinations at the close of the terms, conducted as they were, without regard to mere display, were quite satisfactory and exhibited much uniformity of improvement and excellence. At the close of the first term the ac-

accuracy and clearness with which problems in arithmetic were solved and explained, were particularly noticeable. The writing books had received due attention, and bore internal evidence this branch had received the personal supervision of the teacher.

In the Winter term the labors of the teacher were much more arduous, and such is the multiplicity of classes and studies, that an executive talent of high order is required to accomplish the daily routine. Miss Boyd however, was equal to the emergency and brought the term to a successful issue. At the close of the Summer term, the teacher received a beautiful writing desk as an evidence of the approbation and good will of her pupils.

DISTRICT No. 9.

Summer and Winter, Miss Clara A. James.

Miss J. possesses a great many of the indispensable qualities of the true teacher—energy, activity, enthusiasm and scholarship, and with some little acquisition of experience, and patience for mental and moral obtuseness, cannot fail of great success. The examinations at the close of the terms proved the scholars had received careful and thorough teaching and good discipline. In the summer, particularly, the reading was excellent; the spelling and geography extra. In the winter, the proficiency and interest manifested by a class in grammar was especially noticeable. Nellie Richardson, aged eleven, and Frank Platts, ten years, have finished the Common School Arithmetic, and evidence was not wanting they had mastered it.

DISTRICT NO 10.

A summer term of ten weeks and a winter term of twenty weeks were taught by Miss Abby C. Shute. Four pupils attended from this town with a good degree of constancy.

DISTRICT NO. 11.

Summer, Miss Ella E. Gilreast,

The labors of Miss Gilreast, were crowned with abundant success. She merited, and we believe, received the full approbation of her employers, and taught a profitable school. Its appearance at the examination, proved every class and every pupil, had received due attention and good instruction. The exercises in grammar, in spelling, the careful penmanship, and the good singing, severally deserve commendation. We will mention but one fault—the pupils are necessarily so near the teacher they have acquired a habit of reciting and reading in too low tones. The credit for the good condition of this school is due, not only to

the good management of the teacher, but in no small measure, to the constant attendance of the pupils

Winter, Miss Louise E. Mullins.

Miss Mullins is known to be an energetic, practical and thorough teacher, and did not fail to make her mark in this school. At the close, the readiness and correctness of the recitations, indicated good application and faithful teaching. Particular credits due to the class in mental arithmetic, and to the classes in written arithmetic, for their promptness in definitions and readiness in solving practical questions. Excellence also, was maintained in penmanship and in spelling.

THE SMART BOYS AND GIRLS

WHO HAVE BEEN PERFECT IN ATTENDANCE.

Both Terms.—Daniel M. Boyd, Maria M. Boyd, Clara Hayes, Sibbie M. Sherry, Estella E. Scollay, Bertie E. Gale, Cora B. Brown, Charles J. Brown, Orietta J. Boyce, Hattie P. Mullins, Sarah Crowell, Ida Chase, Willie E. Watts, Sarah K. Dickey, Jennie Gilcreast.

Summer Term.—Perley Robie, Charles Anderson, George Boyd, Clara Anderson, Emma D. Boyd, Alice Bailey, Addie P. Boyd, Flora A. Boyd, Margie J. Morrison, Wallace M. Sherry, Charles G. Pillsbury, Willetta Annis, Addie Annis, Eliza F. Morrison, Minnie Buel, Clara W. Boyd, Charles E. Woodbury, Myron Richardson, Josie Chase, Lillie Morse, Lucy Noyes, Anna Payne, Delia M. Watts, Nellie M. Goodwin, Walter B. James, Freddie A. Young, Henry Remington, Etta M. Holmes, Clara A. Dooley, Etta J. Dooley, Martha L. Hing, Rosilla M. Morse.

Winter Term—Nellie A. Robie, George L. Anderson, Esther M. Morrison, Hattie A. Morrison, Frances H. Yeung, Frank A. Boyce, Lucy Perkins, Julia Chase, Charles Barker, David T. Perkins, Robert Hill, George L. Peabody, Ira F. Goodwin, John H. Goodwin, Trueworthy Chase, Frank H. Chase, Mary E. Watts, Frank H. Watts, George A. Watts, Charles G. Kimball, Frank J. Roberts, Willie L. Wheeler, Frank A. Benson, R. W. S. Pillsbury, Frank A. Hardy, Emma Greeley, Ida Avery, Clara Boyd, Julia Smith, Paulina Avery, Abbie Woodburn, Nellie Woodburn, Frank Woodburn, Warren Smith, Eddie Woodburn, Percy Heath, Willie Blood, Nellie M. Richardson, Delilah Greeley.

We hope to see a greater scarcity of young ladies engaged in what might well be termed "playing school"; that is in reading prepared questions to their unfortunate pupils and waiting for the

prepared answers, a process requiring no mental effort from the teacher and inciting none in the pupil. It is only by a stretch of courtesy such school keepers can be called *teachers*. The misfortune is scholars' parents, and, worst of all, our teachers of the above type unite in the belief that a given number of pages of the text book must be *done* daily, and about so many leaves during the term. The consequence is, in the given time the pupil "gets through the book" but very little of the book gets into him.

The studies proper for our schools and the relative importance of the same, are matters of interest. When teachers have been thoroughly qualified to instruct in grammar, we have found much interest and improvement, and if this branch is behind all others it is because our teachers are more deficient in this than in any other point of qualification.

More attention should be given to history. In importance it cannot be far behind geography, and might well claim a share of the large time now devoted to that branch. We have seen instances where the elementary studies seemed to be regarded of minor importance, and especial prominence given to algebra, geometry, &c., and we think we have known teachers to be engaged more with reference to their ability to teach such branches, than to give thorough instruction in reading, writing and spelling.

It should not be forgotten that the legitimate sphere of the district school is instruction in the common branches—a thorough knowledge of which constitutes a good education—a better one than is often obtained at the boarding school or the college.

Considerable diversity of practice prevails in reference to the time of commencing the summer schools. In some districts the past season, the term has extended from about the first of June to near the middle of August, much judgment being thus shown in selecting the worst possible season of the year for the brief session of the school. The enervating influence of the "heated term" is such as to make it the most unfavorable for intellectual exertion. It is a question involving not only the interests of the parents of a few of the older boys, whose services are needed in planting time, but the health, the comfort and the progress of the children generally; and it is one that should be decided with an unselfish reference to the rights of all.

We deem it proper again to direct attention to the subject of *classification*. The great number of classes is a serious obstacle in the way of progress and loudly demands reform. The mis-

taken idea, already spoken of, that a pupil must hurry on to the end of his text book is at the bottom of the matter and no one will consent to be "put back" however superficial may be his knowledge. The consequences are, many classes are too small to permit the growth of interest or emulation, and the teacher is unable to devote the desirable amount of time to each class. If scholars are classed at all, it is impossible every one shall fall into just the place that fits his ambition or attainments. It is one of the important matters that should be left to the judgment of the teacher, and, as the danger lies rather in a too hasty and superficial, than a too thorough progress, the cases are rare where real injustice is done to a pupil in the "putting-back process."

A comparison of the statistics of the present, with those of eleven years ago show a gain of five per cent in attendance. Then 2425 instances of tardiness were reported, the present year the smaller number of 1152. This is encouraging as affording general evidence of progress in our schools. Still there remains abundant room for improvement in some districts. There are twice as many black marks against the names of individual scholars in certain districts than are found against the names of the entire school in No. 11, or No. 6, for the summer or winter term. A photograph of some of our Registers inserted at this point would be a sadly interesting illustration of this topic.

A. W. MACK.

School Committee.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

District.	PRUDENTIAL COMMITTEE.	Pupils in Summer.		Attendance per cent.		Pupils in Winter.		Attendance per cent.		Amount of School Money.	Wages per month of Summer Teachers.	Wages per month of Winter Teachers.	Weeks of Summer School.	Weeks of Winter School.	Number of visitors.	Cases of tardiness.
1	Orville Peabody.	46	86	52	86	\$215	50	\$29	36	11	44	183	296			
2	Samuel P. Robie.	33	94	33	80	196	70	28	56	10	9	120	61			
3	Charles Smith.	18	83	29	75	107	37	20	20	10	13	63	29			
4	E. G. Greeley.	35	83	40	83	153	03	26	28	9	10	90	42			
5	Turner Sampson.	15	87	17	82	143	62	22	26	12	12	60	86			
6	R. Brown.	11	93	12	93	82	84	22	24	10	12½	62	6			
7	W. P. Richardson.	25	72	17	13	182	28	22	41	15	14	38	187			
8	Henry Crowell.	42	81	48	83	213	92	28	34	12	15	107	176			
9	Daniel Wilkins.	13	77	21	76	111	65	26	24	12	16	70	215			
10	Lewis McGregor.	4	95	4	75	34	20	20		10	20	27	15			
11	G. N. Goodwin.	17	94	22	86	103	73	22	22	10	12	72	10			

The wages of teachers in the above table is inclusive of board; that of female teachers being rated at \$10 per month.—males, \$16.

Income of Literary Fund,.....	200 00
Interest on Surplus Revenue,.....	100 00
Dog Tax,.....	154 24
Amount raised by Taxation.....	1090 90

Whole amount of School Money.....\$1,544 24.





1871.

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Manchester, N. H., March, 1871.